

Remarks

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for a thorough review of the pending application. The Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claims 5, 9, and 10. The Applicant respectfully contends that, as amended, claim 1 is patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,266,659 to Nadkarni.

Unlike the claimed invention, Nadkarni does not teach or suggest an online recruiting system for real-time candidate assessment during an employer-hosted recruiting event, resulting in the automatic transmission of an offer letter to qualified candidates prior to the conclusion of the recruiting event.

Nadkarni is essentially an online relational database of employee candidate information that is maintained in an organized and standard fashion for query by prospective employers:

Prospective employers accessing the system respond to prompts to create a query that is used to define and perform a search of the database.

(Col. 2, ll. 32-35.)

While Nadkarni additionally enables a prospective employer to schedule candidate interviews (col. 6, ll. 3-10), Nadkarni does not teach or suggest a system capable of hosting the real-time assessment of employment candidates during an employer-hosted recruiting event, resulting in the automatic transmission of an offer letter to qualified candidates prior to the conclusion of the recruiting event.

The Applicant has made a genuine effort to respond to the Examiner's objections and rejections in advancing the prosecution of this case. The Applicant believes that all formal

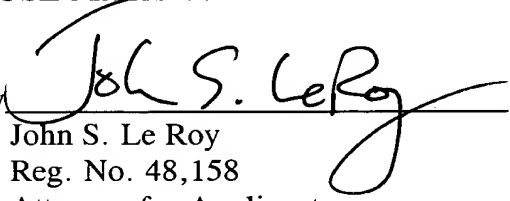
and substantive requirements for patentability have been met and that this case is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

No additional fee is believed to be due as the result of the filing of this paper. However, any additional fees or credits should be applied to Deposit Account 06-1510 (Ford Global Technologies, Inc.). A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

ROSE ~~MARY~~ FARENDEN

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